

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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The editor is not responsible for the views of correspondents.

RALEIGH, N. C., JULY 16, 1895.

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in Raleigh, N. C.

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Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

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"I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows on the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with its dark waters I want to cast one lingering look upon a country whose government is of the people, for the people, and by the people."—L. L. Polk, July 4th, 1890.

N. R. P. A.

AGRICULTURE IN ENGLAND.

We have claimed time and again that the agricultural depression is more alarming in England than it is in this country, and that a single standard is largely responsible. We also maintain that our country has not seen the worst yet, unless we speedily get free coinage and other financial reform. With our many superior advantages, we are able to withstand the single standard blight, though we have but little gold, and may be able to hold out yet a little longer, but it is only a question of time.

Recently we received a copy of the *Farmer and Stock Breeder*, published at London, the paper was established in 1843, and evidently has a large patronage. Therefore, we regard it as a reliable journal. Speaking of the agricultural situation in England, it says editorially:

"That agricultural depression in an acute form prevails throughout the length and breadth of the land is obvious to all. There are no two opinions on the point. The very fact that no individual farmer has been entirely exempt from its evil influences commands unanimity regarding the existence of emphatic decline and chronic disorder."

Now England is a small but thickly populated country. Her territory is dotted over with great manufacturing cities and commercial towns. The agricultural portion of the country is one vast garden, truck farm, orchard and vineyard combined. She has a vast standing army to maintain. Hence, so great a portion of her people being consumers and non-producers, farming ought to be more profitable there than anywhere in the world. But the above quotation from the *Farmer and Stock Breeder* is unimpeachable evidence to the contrary. Instead of a prosperous, happy agricultural population, it is a mass of struggling farmers eking out a miserable existence, while the Rothschilds are filling their already overflowing coffers, blighting not only the great masses of England, but of Germany, India, America and every other country that has bowed the knee and allowed corrupt rulers like Cleveland, Sherman & Co. to sell them out. And yet some people are impudent enough to ask you and to insist on your voting for a continuance of this state of affairs. Will you do it? Are you sane? Are you human? Do you love your children? Will you not throw off the old party collar and slavery shackles and be a freeman once more? Reader investigate. See if we are not telling you the truth.

PUSH ALLIANCE WORK.

After the harvests are gathered and the bread-winners have a month for leisure on their hands is the time for them to do some Alliance work, says the *Southern Mercury*.

The only means of overcoming the Wall street gold influence in this country is through the Alliance. A county or State where the Alliance has a foothold and the people generally are or-

ganized within its fold is not accessible to the corrupting influence of money.

There is a moralizing influence connected with the Alliance that is salutary. The Alliance is not only an educator, but it is a shield and a lance to all who are within its folds. The union formed adds strength; the association and conferences give wisdom and understanding. Exchange of ideas reduces crudeness to purity and on every hand benefits flow out from the Alliance. It is the only hope of the laboring and producing classes, and if its importance was once understood there would be no cessation of Alliance work.

TROOPS WERE NOT NEEDED.

For some time the Virginia militia have been stationed at Pocahontas, Va., the scene of the great strike by coal miners. On this question the Virginia papers were divided, the goldbug or plutocratic papers warmly endorsing Gov. O'Ferrall, while the honest papers strongly denounced his arbitrary action. It has cost the State probably a hundred thousand dollars and has benefited nobody.

Now the Board of Trade of Pocahontas has been heard from. Four of the members of the Board are interested in the coal mine, and refused to join in the address, but the other member consisting of reputable business and professional men, denounce the Governor for his unwarranted action. They claim that no county nor city official asked for troops, and, therefore, the Governor must have responded to a request made by the plutocratic owners of the coal mines. The Board of Trade say that the troops themselves have been more riotous and have violated the laws oftener than the strikers. They further say that about May 7th one of the mining companies brought 250 men from Eastern cities, mostly all foreigners, to take the place of the strikers. When these men arrived they found that the situation had been misrepresented to them and refused to begin work. The troops were already on the ground and were brought into use. On the day after the men arrived at Pocahontas, and after getting the true inwardness of things, they started out of town in a body. Their progress was stopped by soldiers who arrested them and placed them in a stockade, keeping them there from Friday until the following Tuesday, telling them that they would be starved unless they took the places of the striking miners. Other outrages are detailed.

This all happened in Virginia, the "Mother of Presidents," and so called land of liberty. A few incidents like the Pullman strike at Chicago and at Pocahontas, and a few more plutocratic outrages, and the fuse of revolution will be fired and plutocracy, oh! where will it be.

MILLIONAIRE REFORMER.

A year or two ago every real reformer was denounced as an agitator or poverty-stricken chronic grumbler. Hon. Joseph C. Sibley, of Pennsylvania, is neither. He is reported to be worth several million dollars, mostly in real estate and manufacturing enterprises. But he is not an usury shark and will not join in with that class. He is a sincere reformer and was one of the very few Congressmen from the Northeastern States who worked with almost superhuman energy, and voted as he worked, against the unconditional repeal of the Sherman law, and for the free coinage of silver. He was elected to Congress as a Democrat, but also had the endorsement of the Populist Congressional Convention in his district, and received a very large majority of the votes cast. In his speech at the Memphis silver convention a few days ago, Mr. Sibley said: "We must win this fight in 1896. If we do not win it, then it will be too late. There will be two avenues open to the people after 1896. One will be repudiation and the other revolution."

DEMOCRATIC CLERICAL ERRORS

Public Document No. 2, 1893, Page 4, reads as follows:

"I feel it my duty to call attention to the evils following from the enrollment of the bills passed by the Legislature. These bills, in many cases, are so figured by erasures and blots as to make them almost illegible. Omissions of one or more words in other bills have lost, in one case, considerable revenue to the State, and in others have destroyed the real purpose of the statute and impaired the rights of individuals."

Just think of it. Would you believe it! This is from Secretary Coke's report, sent in by the Governor to the General Assembly of 1893, dated Dec. 1st, 1892 and refers to the Democratic legislature previous to that. It reads like this trouble with enrolling clerks is "nothing new under the sun," although some, yea, nearly all our democratic (?) dailies, are trying to make it so appear.

CLASSIFICATION OF RAILROADS.

The total number of railway corporations on June 30, 1894, was 1,924, an increase during the year of 22. Of this number 745 were independent operating companies, and 945 maintained separate operating accounts. The number of companies maintaining financial accounts only was 804, of which 334 were operated under lease for a fixed money rental, and 190 for a contingent money rental; 243 were controlled through the ownership of stock by the operating company; the remaining 37 returned no information as to the form of control. The number of roads not in operation was 77, of which 60 were independent roads; 10 were subsidiary roads, parts of systems, and 7 were private roads. In addition to the road already referred to there were 98 private roads operated in connection with logging, milling, and mining industries. The movement of consolidation during the year on the basis of mileage involved has been greater than for the year previous; 15 roads, representing 1,734.64 miles have been merged; 22 roads, representing 2,351.99 miles have been consolidated. A classification of railways on the basis of operated mileage shows that 44 roads, each with a mileage of over 1,000 miles, operate 100,547.29 miles of line, or 56.30 per cent. of the total mileage of the country; 23 roads, each with a mileage of over 600 and less than 1,000 miles, operate 17,918.35 miles of line, or 10.03 per cent. of the total mileage; 23 roads, each with a mileage of 400 and less than 600 miles, operate 11,724.00 miles of line or 6.57 per cent. of the total mileage; 42 roads, with a mileage of over 250 and less than 400 miles, operate 13,508.82 miles of line, or 7.56 per cent. of the total mileage; and 907 roads, each with a mileage of less than 250 miles, operate the remainder of the mileage, 34,910.26 miles or 19.54 per cent. of the total mileage. From this it will be seen that 90 roads, representing the first three classes, operate 72.80 per cent. of the entire mileage of the country.

MEN OF ABILITY.

The *Charlotte Observer* says that, with the exception of Senator Morgan, of Alabama, no man of the first order of ability is advocating the free coinage of silver.

Holy Moses! They are getting desperate. All admit that the *Observer* man is smart. He is so smart that he doesn't even attempt to justify his course in advocating goldbuggery. No other smart goldbug ever makes any efforts along that line. We will give a year's subscription to this paper to anybody who can search files of the *Observer* and find a line giving logical or truthful reasons for the editor's supposed belief. He manages to make the public understand that he is on that side and says hard things about free coinage advocates, such as mentioned at the beginning of this article, but that is as far as he ever goes.

Read Biblical history and then read modern history, and you will find that the greatest and best men have always been for silver. In fact goldbuggery was unknown until about 1819, when England took a step in that direction. But for the fact that England has always controlled the commerce and manufacturing industry of the world, and also the monetary affairs by becoming a creditor nation, thus enabling her to mass the gold in her bank vaults, that country would have gone into decay long since. She is going that way very rapidly now, anyhow.

Ninety per cent. of the really educated honorable men in the world today are for a double standard. The other ten per cent. is composed of millionaire bankers and editors, and some college professors who teach in colleges endowed by such men as Rockefeller and other goldbugs, and who are mere jumping jacks. But this ten per cent. has a large following of party fools—men who don't know enough to detect the falsehood in an assertion to the effect that the only way to make money plentiful is to stop making any at all.

In the past hundred years or so we may name as "men of the first order of ability" who advocated free coinage, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, James G. Blaine, Jas. A. Garfield, Samuel Tilden and hundreds of others of the most prominent men of all parties. In fact, up to the time the Buffalo thug, Grover Cleveland, took his seat, no President had ever dared raised his voice against the recognized money of the country—of the world.

But the *Observer* referred particularly to men of to day.

The very foremost man in the United States Senate is Senator Jones. He is the ablest advocate of silver in the world, and only last year left the Republican party and became a Populist because it continued to antagonize sil-

ver. Then we have others almost as able—Senators Stewart, Pop; Cameron, Rep; Daniel, Dem; Jones of Arkansas, Dem.; Turpie, Harris, Call, Pasco, Butler of South Carolina, Butler of North Carolina, Bate, Walthall, Peffer and others. Among the Congressmen, we have Crisp, Speaker of the House; Bryan, Sibley, Benton, Black and dozens of others. Go to Asheville and resurrect the bones of the lamented Vance, and you will find a skull that contained more pure brains than can be found in the head of any goldbug, living or dead. Up to the hour of his death, he never lost an opportunity to raise his voice in behalf of silver. Senator Ransom, the *Observer's* pet, was a silver man until he sold out, though his ability was not of "the first order," he being better fitted for a confidence man or professional gambler than a statesman, all of which he practiced along with his cuff shooting, "mashing" and alleged statesmanship. A man of the "first order of ability" ought to know better than to make such an assertion as the *Observer* made.

CAPTAIN MASON ON THE OLD PARTY SHIP.

Captain Thomas W. Mason, in his oration at the Wake Forest commencement, warned the boys against a "turn-coat."

Some people thought he referred to Mr. Cleveland, who has changed his principles several times for office.

Some thought he was covertly assailing the Democratic party for having frequently changed and modified its principles in the pursuit of the offices.

Some said he referred more especially to the Chicago platform, which had a silver lining and was worn with the lining outside by all the Democratic candidates in the South and West.

But those who know Mr. Mason best said he was slyly trying to slyly denounce the members of the people's party who had left the "old ship" with so small a crew the last trip that she missed the haven and the "rewards of the faithful." Some bitterness was added by the reflection that he too had made the mistake of remaining on the old ship and had also lost his "reward." Perhaps he was misled by Col. Green's letter, "Except these abide in the ship ye shall all perish." But if the Colonel had read the scripture a little further he would have found out that Paul and all the others left the ship when she was "parted." The trouble about it is that ship Captains Green and Mason do not know that their old ship is "parted in the middle"—one part drifting toward Wall street. Capt. Mason was asleep when Chief Captain Cleveland betrayed and scuttled it.

He does not know even yet that the ship was run aground where "two seas met," and that the "hinder part"—the tail end—the part on which he is floating, has been "broken off."

Let him wake up and not turn his coat, but put it off and strike for the shore, or for a sounder ship. His party collar, too, he must pull that off or it will sink him.

HIGH AUTHORITY.

M. Alphonse Allard, who was one of the Belgian delegates to the International Monetary Conference held in Brussels in 1892, read a notable economic paper before the Brussels Conservative Union on the 13th inst. In conclusion, he said the only remedy for the existing depression of trade was the rehabilitation of silver and a return to bi metalism, a movement toward which had made progress in every country in the world.

From the above you will see that the free silver advocates have within their ranks some of the brainiest men on earth—the *Charlotte Observer* to the contrary notwithstanding. You will also note that the silver "fad" is not confined to America alone, but that other countries are awakening to the fact that the death of silver as a standard of money means the stagnation and death of business among the masses.

THE RECORD BROKEN.

It was left for Comptroller of the Currency, Mr. E. K. Kyles, to cap the climax with the boldest and most colossal lie yet told about money. In a recent article he says:

"The volume of the country's currency is of very little importance if that currency is sound. The soundness of it is the vital point."

Cleveland, Sherman, Callis and the other sound money prevaricators have been trying this on the people for some time in a roundabout way, but Eckles comes out flatfooted.

Now in order to demonstrate this, Eckles' salary should be reduced to say \$100 per annum, payable in gold, and let him show the public that he can live on \$100 a year just as well as on \$7,000, which, we believe is his salary. If his statement is true as regards the country's finances, it will hold good in his case also.

THE SHERMAN LAW AND THE GOLDBUGS.

Let the people beware of any man who favored the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman silver law in 1893. He will never be a friend of silver, or of the expansion of the currency in any form. In a letter to the *Charlotte Observer* on July 27th, 1893, Senator Vance wrote: "The professed friend of silver money who favors the unconditional repeal of the Sherman law, trusting to the justice of capital, or the chapter of accidents, to get favorable legislation therefor, is either a traitor or a fool." This law, according to Sherman's own statement, was adding annually from \$34,000,000 to \$50,000,000 to the circulating medium. Because it was increasing the volume of currency about seventy-five cents per capita, "the banks, stock brokers, bondholders, chambers of commerce, et id omne genus, clamored for its repeal" (to quote Vance again). These men well knew that to contract the currency is a much more easy and effective way to enslave a people than to conquer them by force of arms. Some of the hirings of these men are now crying for free silver at the top of their voices. Two years ago when they had an opportunity to help the silver cause they were hand in glove with the enemies of the debtors of this country.

When Vance was making the last and grandest fight of his life against the shyllocks before him, and death itself behind him, these fellows turned their little popguns against him and declared that he was about to "ruin the party." He and his faithful colleagues who stood up for the honest money of the Constitution in the face of the most pitiless attacks that were ever devised even by the combined powers of greed incarnate, were denounced as obstructionists who were not earning honestly their salaries, arch conspirators who were engaged in tearing down the very bulwarks of liberty. Some men who are now, in the face of another presidential election, shouting for silver in 1893, howled for the closure rule, whereby debate might be cut off and the nefarious scheme of their masters for curtailing the meagre money supply might be fastened upon the country.

The man who favored the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman act is a contractionist, an ally of the class who own bonds, mortgages, etc., calling for "sound dollars," and who want dollars made as scarce as possible in order that they may secure an increased amount of labor out of the people who must pay "dollars with interest. He wronged the people once, and he will betray them again whenever he finds an opportunity. Better an open foe than a treacherous friend.

Editor Caldwell, of the *Charlotte Observer*, has these many words in his issue of the 28th ult:

"The Asheville Citizen, replying to an article in this paper, named President Andrews, of Brown University, and him alone, as a man of the first order of ability who advocates the free coinage of silver. The last thing we had seen from President Andrews, was an article in one of the periodicals nearly two years ago, advocating the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman act, and it appeared curious that he should have whipped around this time and be now advocating free coinage. Yesterday a gentleman gave us the information that President Andrews favors free coinage only under an international agreement."

Editor Caldwell is entirely right this time. It is "curious" for any intelligent man who advocated the repeal of the Sherman act now to attempt to win the confidence of the advocates of free silver. It is worse than curious. It is shameful.

SOME MORE "SOUND MONEY" MEN.

One of the largest dry goods houses in Chicago closed its door on the 10th. "Honest dollars" don't go far in sustaining business.

Z. T. Lewis, President of a bank at Ansonia, Ohio, is a forger and defaulter. He has forged and sold about \$100,000 worth of county bonds, and is now a fugitive from justice. He is a fair sample of the tribe who are clamoring for "sound money." Reader, don't you see that you are foolish for being misled by such men, that is if you are leaning that way. Honest bankers are not goldbugs, but a majority of the bankers are goldbugs.

The Adams Express Company has brought suit against the Fourth National Bank, Philadelphia, for \$2,000, which the express company claims the bank has defrauded them out of. Both are "sound money" concerns.

J. A. Cawson, a "sound money" drummer from Rhode Island, was arrested at Richmond recently charged with purloining a horse and buggy.

The *Goldsboro Argus* was a "sound money" daily up to a few weeks ago, when it was announced that Mr. Walter A. Bonitz had purchased it. Now comes

the news that the *Argus* is in the hands of a receiver on account of debts due the Bank of Wayne, and that Mr. Bonitz may lose what he has invested in the paper.

A. S. Reinach, dealer in millinery goods, Peter-bury, Va., a "sound money" merchant, has made an assignment.

An expert accountant has found a shortage of \$25,056.20 in the books of the City Gas Works, Richmond, Va., and two of the officials will be discharged. Steps will be taken to recover the shortage from the bondsmen of the late Superintendent. All are "sound money" men.

"SILVER CRAZE DYING OUT."

The above is a common head line over editorials or descriptive dispatches in the daily goldbug papers. They always adopt such tactics when they are badly frightened. The "silver craze" is not dying out, and it never will. From 1873 to 1878 the silver craze was epidemic, though in a milder form. To pacify the people, the Bland law was passed. It was repealed and then that cowardly makeshift, the Sherman law, was passed. Both were pacific, but not satisfactory. The work of contraction has gone on until now the craze is cyclonic in its intensity because the people feel it more than ever before. Poverty is rampant and values have decreased so rapidly.

The story about the Irish soldier who captured a prisoner and attempted to take him into camp, illustrates the "dying out" very well. "I've captured a prisoner," cried the Irishman to an officer some distance away. "Well, bring him in," said the officer. "Faith I can't," said the Irishman, "he's taking me with him." Probably a still better illustration is a story told by Congressman W. J. Bryan in one of his silver speeches. Said Mr. Bryan:

"The silver question has been called a craze and you have been told that it will blow over. Out West, where frequent windstorms occur, fences are blown over and houses are blown over. One farmer out there began to build him a fence of stone and mortar. A neighbor came along and stopped. 'Don't you know that'll blow over!' he inquired. 'Maybe so,' was the reply, 'it is now five feet wide and four feet high, so if it blows over it will be one foot taller than before.'"

A QUESTION ANSWERED.

The New York Voice leaned toward free coinage for a good while, but its wealthy owners, Funk, Wagnall & Co., have changed its tone. A recent issue said:

"We hold that government alone should issue money. The advocate of free coinage would place this sovereign power in the hands of the owners of the gold and silver mines. Which of us is the defender of special privileges?"

This is just exactly what we hold, too. And free coinage of silver is carrying out the plan exactly. Since the beginning of time silver has been the money of all lands until England demonetized it and a few other countries have followed suit. The Constitution of the United States provides that the money shall be made of gold, silver, copper, nickel and paper—the paper money always being supplemental and redeemable in coin; not gold or silver, but coin.

To do this in exact fairness to all and systematically, there must be a ratio and a backer. Sixteen to one has always been considered as near the average as possible to attain. In Biblical history we learn that a shekel of gold was worth sixteen times as much as a shekel of silver. Now it would not be safe to allow either the owners of gold or silver to make the money. So the government undertakes the job according to laws considered fair and satisfactory to the average citizen. The government coins and stamps so much silver or gold as a dollar or coin of some other denomination, the proportion being the same. Ten silver dimes are equal in weight and value to one silver dollar. Four twenty five gold pieces are equal to a ten dollar gold coin. The expense of conducting the mint and assay offices must be met, either out of the general taxes or in some way. So our Constitution was fixed to allow the government to retain ten per cent. toll for coining the money, thus requiring the owners of mines to pay the cost instead of taxing the general public. Now silver is no longer coined. This not only stops the working of mines, but cuts off the supply of money, contracting the quantity, reduces values and enhances the value of the gold. Gold and silver always have composed the bulk of our money both in circulation actively or by lying in the treasury vaults as redemption money. Now you see the coinage of gold is going right on and silver is dead, dead. This is very unfair, and the advocates of goldbuggery will not admit that they are getting special favors while crying out against the coinage of silver. If it were right to demonetize silver, it would be right to demonetize gold, and it would not damage the country much more if gold were demonetized, for the supply each year is so small that business would not miss it much. Now will the Voice explain why it opposes the coinage of silver and says nothing against the coinage of gold which is being done on exactly the same terms that the advocates of silver are clamoring for!